## NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

[CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.] are now off Liverpool Point, a few miles above Aqui SENATOR SUMMER'S PORTHCOMING SPENCE ON THE

umner has the floor in the Ser next at one o'clock. His speech will be chiefly upon the condition of our foreign relations. He will probably aprove the line of policy pursued by Mr. Seward. chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relation. Mr. Summer has peculiar facilities for information, wh are greatly enhanced by his intimate and extensive ce with leading European statesmen.

This speech is looked to with great interest. ARRIVAL OF A REBEL DESERTER.

Occoquan yesterday, and succeeded in getting safely within the lines of General Heintzelman's division. His clothing was very shabby, except his evecoat, which was He was originally from Maine, and being most of the time in one of the hospitals as an assistant procured a horse, however, and escaped.

ARREST OF A SUSPICIOUS PERSON. Yesterday a Virginia farmer named Richard Lacy, who suspected of having given aid and comfort to the came inside the lines of General Heintzelman's division near the Quaker church, in the vicinity Accolink, with the estensible purpose of hauling wood to ship from Dage creek. Both he and a river captain, who mpanied him, were sent to the Provest Marshal, at

POUR MOUNTED REBELS CAPTURED. The pickets of the Thirty-eighth New York regiment Colonel Ward, who went on outpost duty yesterday, cap-tured four mounted rebels, with their arms and equipnts. It is believed that they belonged to Co Stewart's Virginia cavalry regiment.

NIGHT ALARM IN THE IRISH BRIGADE. nt eleven o'clock last night a number of sho were fired from the woods on the pickets of the Sixty ninth regiment, Irish Brigade, Colonel Nugent command ing, beyond Edsail's Hill. Several more were fired by the rebels during the night—twenty-five in all—but no damage was done to any one on our side. Lieutenant Colonel Kelly had his reserve under arms immediately and without causing a general alarm, but the darkness of

the night prevented his capturing any of the rebels. SUICIDE OF A SOLDIER. George Booth, private in Company A, Eighteenth Massa chusetts regiment, committed suicide last evening by shooting himself through the heart with his musket. He has been in ill health and despendent for some time. came from Redford, Mass, where he leaves a wife and three children. This is the first suicide that has occurred

GEN. LANE'S WAR POLICY NOT ENDORSED BY THE PRE

SIDENT.

The statement that the President cordially endorses the position of General Lane, with reference to the con duct of the war, is without foundation. The policy proposed by General Lane is totally at variance with that announced by the President, and intended to be un swervingly adhered to by the administration.

DEATHS IN THE ARMY.

The following deaths of soldiers are reported:-Jno. C. Richardson, Company G. Wm. J. Leary, Company D; J. A. Dowling and Wm. H. Pineo, Company C Eleventh Maine Volunteers.

Christian Stribenranch, Company I, Ninety-eighth Penn Morris B. Benna and Bishop Wood, Company C, First Berdan's Sharpshooters.

Andrew J. Newman, Company C; Wm. A. Withington ompany F; Nelson D. Leslie and Jno. O. Hunt, Company B. Second Berdan's Sharpshooters

Thos. Clark, Company C, Third United States artillery. Archibald Pamon, Oneida cavairy. Eldridge Herrick, Company G, Rochester (N. Y.) regi-

Corporal Wm, S. Rinchart, Company I. Eighth Ponnsyl

vania Reserve Corps. Private Bennett, Company K, Twenty-fourth New York Peter Falk, Company K, Fifty-eighth New York.

Benj. Covert, Company K, Eighty-ninth New York. J. D. Brown, Company H, Seventh New York cavalry. Jnc. Hilburn, Company C, 104th Pennsylvania. Jnc. Babcock, Company E, Sixty-first New York. James Meade, Company I, Second United States

antry. Charles F. Burnett, Company O, Twenty-third Pennsyl

Levi West, Company G. Third Vermont,

George A. Humphrey, Company F, Ninth New York

PRISONERS SENT UP PROM GEN. HOOKER'S DIVISION Captain Kiehl, of the Reindeer, brought up this after noon two rebel prisoners from General Hooker's division also twenty-two four bushel bags of In ita rubber over coats, besides several sacks of undershirts and a large ntity of quinine. The prisoners were captured while

The Inspector of the Sanitary Commission, who ha recently visited the Vermont regiments on the Potomac notes a great improvement in the general health of the regiments, attributable to improvements adopted in the

ttempting to convey these stores from the Marvland to

location of their encampments

Adjutant John McQuade, of the Fourteenth New York Volunteers, was to-day appointed an Aid-de-Camp on the eral Fitz John Porter, vice Lieutenant McQues tin. Second dragoons, recently promoted and ordered to

his regiment.
MILITARY CONTRACTS FOR HORSES. An official communication in response to a resolution of the House was to-day transmitted to that body by the Secretary of War, covering the reports from the Quarter master's department, by which it appears that George

tract for feeding five hundred and twenty-five disabled horses during the winter, and Charles Chouteau for seventy-one. It appears that the contract system thu far has failed entirely. Advertisements for bids for almost everything required have been made, but not in a single instance have the lowest bidders come forward and closed their contracts. Of the horses placed on Cheuteau's farm at thirty-five cents per head per diem only about thirty-five of them have become serviceable. The remainder are not considered worth keeping. THE CASE OF COLONEL KERRIGAN.

Judge Hearne, one of the counsel for Colonel Kerrigan, emphatically contradicts the report that evidence has been elicited on the trial establishing without doubt the charge of his having given information to the enemy, and further that the evidence for the prosecution has not yet been closed. The paragraph transmitted yesterday was based on what was considered at the time reliable infor

REPEAR.

Representative Ward to-day gave notice of his inter

tion to introduce a bill to establish a coinage departmen in the Assay office at New York.

He also presented the memorial of the citizens of Grey-town for the appointment of commissioners to inquire into the jurisdiction of the authorities of Greytown over Punta Arenas, to ascertain the value of the property de stroyed by the bombardment of that town TROUBLE AMONG THE ARMY SURGIOUS.

It is said that the introduction of the homeopat practice of medicine has raised somewhat of a commu-tion among many of the regular surgeons in the army. THE INDIAN TRIBES.

Commissioner Dole will soon leave for the West on bus ness of importance connected with the Indian tribes.

THE FIRST MILITARY EXECUTION IN WASHINGTON. A soldier was executed in this city to-day, upon sentence of a court martial, it being the first example of the kind since Washington was placed under martial law Michael Lanahan was hung for the crime of shooting Sergeant Brennan, in Georgetown, Oct. 29, 1861. The execuconducted by the Provost Marshal, Brigadier General Andrew Porter, in the quietest manner possible. Lanahan had for some time entertained a grudge against Sergeant Brennan, and when the homicide occurred he was reprimanded by the Sergeant for being absent from his post at goard mounting. Lanahan replied to the Ser geant impudently, and when Brennan turned quickly, and asked what he said, Lunahan levelled his mus-ket and fired, killing the Sergeant instantly. The cul-prit was tried by court martial, and scateneed to be hung. Major General McClellan, upon a careful review of hung. Major General McClellan, upon a careful review of the record, which disclosed facts that would have convioted him of murder in the first degree before any im partial jury, signed the death warrant. Brennan was an officer much respected, and his murder was the subject

This merning, at ten o'clock, Lanahan was taken from

the central guard house, and, accompanied by his spirit ual adviser, Father Walter, of St. Patrick's church ced in a carriage, guarded by a file of regulars, conveyed by way of Ninth street to Pennsylvania avenue, and thence to Franklin square. Lanahan was dressed in his regular uniform, and, with the exception of an unnatural paleness, looked as usual. He was short in

At eleven o'clock an escort, composed of five detachments from regiments of United States infantry, took the prisoner through Fourteenth street and Vermont avenue to the place of execution, a vacant space between O and P streets. Here was a gallows, which had beer erected during the morning, and around this the troop were ranged in a hollow square. The prisoner was taken from the carriage at a quarter past eleven o'clock, and, with a single armed guard, approached the scaffold, accompanied by Father Walter. He mounted the scaffold with a firm step, and looked around upon the soldiery without flinching. General Devereaux, Assistant Ad. execution, to which the prisoner calmly listened, occa-sionally looking around for the last time at his comrades npen the field. Three or four hundred spectators only had gathered around the military to witness the impres sive spectacle.

soner requested that his arms, which had been pinlaned behind him, might be loosened, as he desired to meet his fate like a man. The request was complied with, and Father Walter put on his sacer detail robes, and knelt for a few minutes to offer up the last petitien for him who was soon to explate his crime. Lanahan looked around when the priest had concluded his prayer, and said, in a cheerful and audible voice, as he looked around upon the military cordon, "Good bye, soldiers, good bye." The black cap was drawn over his face, and he stepped firmly upon the trap, where he placed himself in the position of the soldier, with his arms by his side All things being ready, Corporal Brown, at half-past eleven o'clock, placed his feet upon the spring, and Lanahan, who had not been unnerved for an instant, fell, and his life was over.

but the spinal cord was broken, and in a few minute the surgeons examined the body, and pronounced life extinct. The corpse was placed in an army wagon, and conveyed by comrades of the deceased to the Catholic

Within half an hour after the execution the scaffolwas removed, and persons living a square distant hardly knew that such an affair had taken place in their neigh

borhood.

recites the history of the case, concludes as follows:—
The Major General Commanding confirms the proceedings of the Court Martial in the case of private Michnel Ianahan. It appears from the testimony that Sergeant Brennan, the deceased, was sergeant of the guard at Georgetown, D. C. on the 29th of October last. The prisoner was a private of the guard, and on the first relief, the hour came for posting that relief, Lanahan was not at the guardhouse. As Sergeant Brennan was not at the guardhouse. As Sergeant Brennan was about posting another men in the place of Lanahan, the latter came to the guardhouse. The Sergeant turned sharply towards him, told him he was never in place when wanted, slapped him, and told him to get his guar and go on pest. Lanahan got his gran, and took his place on pest. Sergeant Brennan had previously given Lanahan a half hour of extra guard duty. A very few minutes afterwards, as Brennan was passing by his post, the accused fired and killed him. The proof is clear that he did this in satisfaction of the grudge he bore towards the deceased, not only for the blow given him at the guard house, a few minutes before, but for oil scores, which he meximed in his statement to the Court. It is very reprehensible for a ecites the history of the case, concludes as follows -The proof is cear that he do this in satisfaction of the blow given him at the guard house, a few minutes before, but for old scores, which he mentioned in his statement to the Court. It is very reprehensible for a commissioned or non-commissioned officer to strike a soldier, except when it is absolutely necessary to repress disorder. It is never allowable as a punishment for an offence. But for a soldier, because of being struck, to shoot his immediate superior, is at war with every principle of military subordination. It was in evidence that it was not customary for sentinels at Georgatown to have their arms loaded. The prisoner must have loaded his mosked for the purpose of carrying out his vindictive design against his sergeant. The homic de in this case seems to la k\*none of the features which distinguish murder from simple manifacily. Private Michael Larahan, of Company A, See and regiment of United States idiantry, will, in pursuance of the sentence of the Court Statisi, be langed by the neck until he be dend, on Monday, the 6th day of January, 1862, at such time and place within the limits of this district as the Provest Marshal of Washington and Georgetown may direct.

LEVER AT THE WHITE HOUSE. There is to be a levee at the White House to morrow

A most lively business is now being carried on in supplying wood for the army. All along the Chesapeake and

Ohio Canal, as far up as Cumberland on the Maryland and Virginia shore, wood choppers are cutting wood and shipwe hundred and fifty cords for its winter consumption the entire amount required is immense, involving a total cost of a million of money. The government now pays four dollars a cord for wood on the ground.

## PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6, 1862.

Mr. Nasarra, (opp.) of Oregon, presented the credentials Hon. Benjamin Stark, who was appointed Senator to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Senator Baker.

tration of the eath be suspended for the present, and the credentials of Mr. Stark, together with certain papers which be held in his (Mr. Fessenden's) hand, be referred to the Judiciary Committee. The papers were well attested by many of the most respectable inhabitants of Portland-Oregon. The papers state that Mr. Stark is understood to be an open and avowed secessionist; that he defends the course of the South, and had given utterance to statements a war with the government, such as approving of the at

war with the government, such as approving of the attack on Fort Sunfer, and declaring that in the case of war he would sell his property and go South and fight for the rebels. He (Mr. Fessenden) had examined the papers with deliberation, and therefore made the motion.

Mr. Busser, (opp.) of Ind., said that there was no precedent for such a motion. He never knew of a case where a Senator had been retured the oath. He thought that the senator had been retured the oath. He were the Senate taxe cognizance of the matter property. Never had base faisshoods been uttered than those in regard to himself which had been sent to the Senate here. He had in his pecket a copy of the New York Herald, where it was stated that he (Mr. Bright) was a Brigadier General in the relief army.

change the former report of the committee that Mr. Stanton is entitled to the seat.

Mr. Wilson offered a resolution saking the Secretary of War to report by what authority Cyrus Seymour had been appointed a sutler in the Sickles regiment.

The resolution was adopted.

TAT ON THIS SHAPHIC DESPATCHES.

Mr. COLLARER, (rep.) of Vt., offered a resolution that the Committee on the Post Office be instructed to inquire into the expediency of placing a tax on conveying intelligence by telegraph.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

Mr. DAVIS, (Unlou) of Ey., introduced a joint resolution that the President procure an exchange of prisoners from the privateer Jeff. Davis for prisoners taken from the army of the United States.

The joint resolusion was adopted.

EXECUTATION DUTIES ON THA AND COPPER.

Mr. PRESENDEN Offered a joint resolution authorizing the Sacretary of the Treasury to allow goods (coffee and tea) warehoused before the passage of the recent act to be withdrawn, with the duty of the former act paid, and the duties collected on such goods under the late act be refunded.

The joint resolution was agreed to.

refunded.
The joint resolution was agreed to.
ADDLESSING FERING SOUTHER.
Mr. Powell, (opp.) of Ky., introduced a bill to repeal
all acts granting bounties to fishing vessels.
NATIONAL ALMORY AT ROCK ISLAND.
The bill to establish a national armory at Rock Island,
Ill. was taken up.

III., was taken up. Mr. Ten Eyex, (rep.) of N. J., moved to postpone it for we weeks from to-day. Motion agreed to. The PERSON RILL.

The bill making appropriations for pensions in 1863 was taken up and passed.

was taken up and passed.

JUDICIARY AFFAIRS.

On motion of Mr. TRUMBULL, the bill in relation to the Judicial districts of the United States, altering the boundaries of certain districts, &c., was taken up, and, after some discussion, was postponed until Monday next.

Mr. Wilson introduced a bill to define and fix the pay and emoluments of certain officers of the army. Referred. After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

House of Representatives.

PROPOSED STRAM PIRE DEPARTMENT. On motion of Mr. Dunit, (rep.) of N. Y., a was adopted instructing the Committee on the District of Columbia to inquire into the expediency of establishing a steam Fire Department, similar to that of Phila delphia.

THE PATTLE OF BALLS' BLUFF-INFORTANT DESCRISION ON THE WAR.

Mr. Roscos L. Conkling, (rep.) of N. Y., rising to a quesion of privilege, called attention to the fact that on the se cond day of the session a resolution was adopted with re ference to the battle of Bails' Bluff. The resolution proposed no investigation into any future transactions what ever: It simply requested the Secretary of War to inform tain who are responsible for the disastrons affair at Pail's Bluff. The resolution was handed to the Adjutant General, who submitted it to the Commander-in-Chief. The Commander-in-Chief, I am willing to believe, did not The Commander-in-Chief, I am withing to believe, did not read the resolution, because I did not impute to any one concerned any intention to triffe with the House or to return an evasive answer. If he did read it he entirely misunderstood its point and purport, for he expressed an opinion to the Adjutant General—an opinion which that officer repeated to the Secretary of War, and the Secretary of War, and the Secretary of War, and the secretary of War, in accordance with usage no doubt, simply transmitted it to as, and refers us to it. Now, that is in no sense responsive, not in the remotest degree, to the resolution of the House. In answer to a resolution, asking simply whether an investigation had been had upon a particular point, the Adjutant General reports that the Commander-in-Chief of the army is of opinion that an inquiry into the subject of the resolution would not in the future be compatible with the public interest. If the answer had been that it would be injurious to the public service to inform the House whether any steps or proceedings had been taken to ascertain who was to blame for the great disaster at Bail's Eloff, that answer would be proposterous enough and almost incredible, or so appear to us. Bai yet it would be an answer in terms, and would be resonance. Bat yet it would be an answer in terms, and would be resonance to the opinion of anybody that it would be injurious to the public interest to Go so. This answer, however, insolvertanily raises a very high question of privilege, which the House ought to consider, who set here as regresentatives of the people, because in our organism this is the only place to which read the resolution, because I did not impute to any one

be agaricus to the public interest to co so. This answer, however, inadvertantly raises a very high question of privilege, which the House ought to consider, who set here as regresentatives of the scoole, because in our organism this is the only place to which the peeple can appeal, and whose voice can be heard; and among the most undentable and sacred of their rights is the privilege of inquiring into their own affairs, and when they do languire they are entitled, if not to an answer, at least to have the servant of whom the inquiry was made to say that, in his opinion, it was ill-timed or inquirious. And unless we intend to be accomplices here in trampling upon personal rights, I submit that an instance of this sert ought not to be passed over. If such a practice as this be tolerated, the most bossted of our privileges will languish, and the most vital elements of the government will decay; and, as in ordinary cases so in important matters, we ought to watch with jealousy the right of inquiry. But this is no ordinary matter. This resolution relates to a great national calamity. It relates to an event which is believed to have been the most atractions military murder ever committed in our history as a people. It relates to a lost field, to a disastrous battle, to a humiliating triumph of rebellion. It relates to something more than these. It relates to a blunder so gross that all men can see it, and no man has so far dared to ceny it or defend it. A blunder which, besides position, besides time, besides defeat, besides the loss of arms and munitions of war, coast the lives of nine hundred and thirty men, brave and loyal, the very pride and flower of the States from whence they came. This resolution proposed that the nation should be informed whether the chief military authorities had taken any notice whatever of that shameless and wholesale slaughter of the brave sons of New York, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. It proposed that the nation should be informed that some proceedings had taken place—something open the chief military authorities had taken any active vaniever of that shameless and wholesale slaughter of the
brave sons of New York, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. It proposed that the nation should be informed that
some proceedings had taken place—something open or
secret, formal or informal; if not all that military usage
requires, something to show that this terribile event had
been inquired into. Now, sir, if for no other spleet than
of knowing whether that slaugher on the Ziaforf October
last had been passed over as a mere ripple on the current
of events, in the name of my people I demand that those
whose business it is to answer shall stand up and
answer. We have now a committee to investigate the conduct of the war, and if it be known
that the disaster of Balis Bluff is to be the subject of a
resolution of this House, good will come out of it, and
witnesses will come forward to testify to all they know
in the matter. The House must be aware that the battle
of Balis Bluff, like many others, has been made the subject of an issue between the regular army and the volunteers. Brigadier General Stone, who was at the time the
commander of the division from which the detachuents
came who fought the battle, or attempted to fight it, is an
officer of the regular army. Cotonel Baker, to whom a
portion of the command after a certain hour was assigned, was a volunteer. The friends of these two officers
have indulged in much angry controversy as to who
should bear the blame, and on the one side the
cage has been espoused as of its appropriate
office was to fasten some stigma on the
volunteer service, and to determine certain questions of
precedeace and merit between West Point and the reguararny. It was stated that the friends of Cotonel Baker
would move for an investigation, and that, having an
nounced their intention, they were told it would be better not, for if they did that the friends of General Stone
would retailiste, and make it recoil upon Baker and da-

Into the jaws of hell rushed the six hundred.

These who did not die on the field were forced down the steep bank of the river, and here, to save their arms from failing into the hands of the enemy, they threw them into the stream; and many, alas, how many, sought and found a watery grave. The last act of this terrible tragedy and gross blunder, if not the saddest, was the most sickening and appalling of them all. The miserable flat boet on returning to the island was laden with the mangled, the wearled and the dying. The quick and the dead were huddled together in one struggling, mangled mass, and all went down together into that doleful river, never again to rise. Leosburg was illuminated that night—lituminated by particles and rebela, and another foul laurel was added to those of Bull run, Big Bothel, the blockade of the Potomac, and the tame surrender of our navy yards and magazines. Such was the battle of Ball's Bulf. Such it stants to-day on the page of history. The states whose soldiers most serun, Big Bothel, the biockade of the Potomac, and the tame surrender of our many yards and magazines. Such was the battle of Ball's Bluff. Such it stands to-day on the page of history. The states whose soldiers most severely suffered in it must be named—New York, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. In the name of the brave and lamented men who fell that day, out of regard for the living and the dead, out of regard for the living and the dead, out of regard for the great interests to be affected by an investigation, I think all the circumstances connected with the planning and execution of the battle ought to be brought to light. Thope they will be. I hope the committee appointed to investigate into the conduct of the war will not overlock the battle. I hope no apolepies and no private interests will disseade from an investigation into it, by any statements that the revolutions of the whole truth will be detrimental to the public service, come from what quarter that statement may. I do not think that, after the publication of the free proof the Adjutant General, in reference to the division of General Fremont, the publication of anything can be injurious to anybedy. In any court of justice, at least according to the well settled principles of equity and justice, the military authorities, who oppose this investigation and the publication of the facts, would be stopped from sotting their vote against it. At all events the House will be safe in ventilating the authors, and holding up to public view, too, the authors of the greatest national calamity and disgrace which has yet been talked of in Gath and published in the streets of Askaien. I wan it to be distinctly understood that I push this matter on the attention of the Modal was on the same side of the river with Leesburg, within a few hours' march, and yet was not employed in the attack, but another division of General McCall, when on the same side of the river with Leesburg, within a few hours' march, and yet was not of the worst and most dangerous that could have which had been sent to the search lever. He had in his stated that the (Mr. Bright) was a Brigadier deterral in the rebet array. It was stated that the (Freinds of Goneral Stone Mr. Freinds and it was true there was not a precedent or had now to make procedents. These papers in reference to Mr. Stark were well attested by his neighbors and showthaten.

Description of the state of Fifth, no reinforcements reached Colonel Baker, atthough, aside from the command of General McCall, there were troops and artillery on both sides of the river within four miles of the field of battle. All these grounds of consure may be explainable; if so, it is but just to the living and the dead that an opportunity should be afforded. If they are not susceptible of explanation, for higher reasons inquiries ought not to slumber.

Mr. Coxana offered a preamble, reciting the resolution heretofore adopted and the response, cencluding with a resolution that the answer to it is neither responsive nor satisfactory to the liouse, and that the Secretary of War be directed to roturn a further answer.

Mr. Richamese, (opp.) of III, inquired whether this was a question of privilege.

The Sease as submitted the question to the House, which decided that it was.

Mr. Bichamesen, in opposing the resolution, said this was not a matter of proper inquiry hore. If there is one point more prominent than another on which the country is agreed, it is that these who fought and fell with Gomeral Baker displayed as much courage and galiantry as have ever been displayed on this continent. But these things ought hore, Sucpose any body living is found to be lingued in here. Sucpose any body living is found to be fault, what will you do with him? Discuss him, in town meetings? Is that the

dein should not have been assigned to the division of the name side of the river, and why it should have been entrusted to Stone, who had not only a river to cross, but actually two rivers, before he could make the attact. The inquiry as to this binder, if only even simulated by our one possessing the slightest smattering of military knowledge cannot full to observe that the river, bubridged and unfortable, is one of the most formidable and perions obstacles to a military advance, if a time not wheely the relief on, nothing is to be so much dreaded and shumed at any ceat as the peasage, in face of the enemy, of an unbridged and unfordable sitesam, and when stamped under these circumstances is requested and shumed at any ceat as the peasage, in face of the enemy, of an unbridged and unfordable sitesam, and when stamped under these circumstances is requested to the attack, but enficient means to bring it back in security and expeditionally in case of a repute. In this case two rivers scened to have been considered by our commanding officers at which the state of the river were not brought into requisition at all, not even for the purpose of defending the crossing and handing, or even to cover the tumulous roterad. No, but the whole expectation, with crossing and inding, places had to be selected. The crossing and landing places had to be selected. The crossing that could be relocted. The landing place was a high bank of clay, some fifteen feat shrupt and per-pendicular, and surmonanted by a bird of one hundred and fifty feet. The crossing and the could be relocted. The landing place was a high bank of clay, some fifteen feat shrupt and per-pendicular, and surmonanted by a bird of one hundred and fifty feet. The crossing and the could repair and all, a ship, and build on an a heavy of the could repair and all, a ship, and build on the country of the property of the country

the proper departments of the government. The who have committed blunders and acted from err

he preserved the perpetuation of slavery, rather than the Union?

Mr. Wickleye replied that he was for presorving the Union under the constitution, regarding its obligations imposed on every citizen. State and section. He was not for violating the constitution when it was not essential to the satety of the Union. He would preserve the institution of slavery under the constitution by the principle declared by the House, and voted for by Mr. Lovejoy and other representatives, and also declared in the inaugural address of the President and in the latter two messages. If these principles are carried out he had no fears for the Union and the institution of slavery.

Mr. Lovelor asided if the ship must be saved by the throwing overboard of a portion of the crew, which would the gentleman prefer?

Mr. Monkings responded:—"I would prefer throwing the abolitionists overboard."

Mr. Lovelor said that was tantameunt to saying the gentleman preferred the Union going overboard rather than slavery. As for himself, he was for preserving the Union and constitution with the great object for which they were catablished—namely, with freedom. He demanded, in the name of God and justice, that slavery shall not stand in the way of our success and triumph. In illustration of his remarks, he caused to be read the seventh chapter of the Book of Joshua, showing that the absence of prosperity and success was owing to what was designated the accursed thing.

Mr. Mallony, (Union) of Ky., understood Mr. Lovejoy to say, so heavily is slavery weighing unon our army as Cannon to the right of them, Cannon to the left of them, Cannon in front of them, Into the jaws of hell rushed the six hundred.

absence of prosperity and success was owing to what was designated the accursed thing.

Mr. Mallon, (Union) of Ky., understood Mr. Lovejoy to say, so heavily is slavery weighing upon our army as to render it impossible to achieve victories until slavery is removed out of the way. He had supposed that if slavery was a curse, the responsibility of the rebellion would rest on the South, and that the face of the Almighty would be unrued against the South, if the theory of the gentleman was correct. Presuming he knew the feeling of Kentucky, if we considered slavery stanting in the way of the constitution we would not hesitate to wipe out slavery. (Applause.) But we cannot regard slavery as incompatible with the liberty established by our forefathers. We want to preserve the Union, with all the rights to all sections conferred by the constitution. He asked whether the gentlemen would destroy the constitution to get rid of slavery?

Mr. Lovelov replied that he would not. He only declared that slavery must be destroyed rather than the constitution and Union.

Mr. Dunn. (rep.) of Ind., as Mr. Lovejoy had quoted Joshua, referred the gentleman to the parable of the wheat and tarce. The Savieur did not recommend the tares to life drawn out by the roots with the wheat, but to wait patiently to the last day. The gentleman from Illinois proposed radical measures, instead of waiting for time to remedy the evil. He would destroy the wheat and tares at the same time in his mad efforts to carry out his schemes, let the gentleman conceal his purpose as he may. If it had been proclaimed at the commencement of this war that the object was to overthrow slavery, instead of having six hundred thousand men there would be only a small band of John Brown's at the bests of the gentleman. He thanked God that the gentleman was not now likely to be a member of the Cabinet.

Mr. Lovenoy—That's not se certain. (Laughter.)

him the most implicit confidence if we would come out of the conflict with honor. General McClelian was charged with an immense responsibility, and surrounded by so much treachery that he can scarcely whisper his plans. We should strengthen his hands and cheer his heart in view of these facts.

Mr. Cartranias, (Union) of Ky., contended that the House has no power under the constitution to inquire into matters purely military. The army is under the command of the Fresicent, who is responsible for its operations. To interfere with this, therefore, would be an attempt to extend our civil jurisdiction. Even if we had the right to make such an inquiry, did not public policy forbid it? Could war he successfully conducted on such a principle? The gentleman from New York (Mr. Conkling) had given an animated picture of the scenes of the battle, and spoke of the killed, wounded and dying. The gentleman had given a clear description of the battle for the purpose of showing that there was a want of skill in its management. However our feelings may be aroused or affected, let us be careful not to allow such feelings to lead us into improper measures if there was a want of skill and tidelity, what was the remedy? Was it to be exercised by the civil jurisdiction and power? If faults have been committed they are to be examined into and punished by the military tribunals. By pursuing the course now proposed we take the subject out of the hands of those supposed to be incompetent. Was thus wise? Such an inquiry now would lead to future similar embarrassments. The effect would be to disavow our entire army. He believed that the whole country has confidence in General in Chief. An army of hares led on by a lone is more to be dreaded than an army of lions led on by a lone is more to be dreaded than an army of lions led on by a lone is more to be dreaded than an army of lions led on by a lone is more to be dreaded than an army of here seed has cancels of the resolution, as provided for by he reises of the House, and the was now too

Mr. Wice in Fr. (Union) of Ky., called Mr. Loveloy's at

Mr. Wickinger, (Union) of Ky., called Mr. Lovejey's attention to the resolution passed by the House in behreat ylast, declaring that neither the feleral government nor the people of the North have the right or purpose to interfere with or legislate on the subject of slavery in the south. This was voted for by Owen Lovejoy. Are you the man? (Laughter.)

Mr. Lovejoy responded, "I am the man," and continum his remarks, he said he believed the people were detrinined to carry on the war in such a way as to not diwn the rebellion in the speediest manner. He had no do but that the givenment will gracefully yield to the popular sent ment. He repeated, we have no right in time of peace to interfere with slavery in the States. When that resolution was passed, for which he voted, all the States were loyal and had not broken out in rebellion.

Mr. Lovenoy—Inst's not so certain. (Laughter.)
Mr. Duxn (resuming) said he believed that by the war slavery had received its death blow. He hoped this was so.
Mr. Lovenoy did not deny that he wanted to see slavery crushed and ground to powder, but his argument was that slavery should not stand in the way of success to our army and the preservation of the constitution and Union. He was not, as charged, in favor of any such schemer. He never voted for any of them. He would tell the gentleman that those six hundred thousand soldiers would not fight the battle of slavery.

Mr. Duxn.—I did not say so.
Mr. Lovenov—I suppose the gentleman meant that, conceal it as he will. (Laughter.)
Mr. Struens, (rep.) of Pa., said if they were to believe in the horrible doctrine of Mr. Crittenden it was nothing less than this, viz.—That the House dare not inquire into the manner in which the war is conducted, and whether there are many traitors or not. Had it come to this that the House is a mere registrar of executive edicts, and is only to vote men and money? He protected against such a doctrine, it having no foundation in the constitution. It appears that the border States would rather see the constitution and Union perish then see slavery perish. We had just given 20,000 men to Kentucky to support slavery. Should the alternative be as to the destruction of the Union or of slavery.

Mr. Duxn said he did not exalt slavery above the constitution. He would make no sacrifice of the constitution of the Union and the perpetuation of our present form of slavery. But he did not be continued to him a his day, and to those who are to come after him, than the preservation of slavery as its object. It so, the od Union is forever gone. We may, however, have a Union of the free States, which may, in time, throw its shadow over the continent; but as to restoring the Union are it was this would be impossible. He was for maintaining the authority of this government. If slavery stands in the way of the peace and prosperity of the country, slavery

sary, let it be done."

Mr. Brain, (rep.) of Mo., moved that the whole subject

Mr. Blam, (rep.) of Mo., moved that the whole subject be laid on the table.

Not agreed to—yeas 57, nays 77.

Mr. Blemaness offered an amendment to Mr. Conkling's resolution, that the Secretary of War also report to the Bosse, if compatible with the public interests, who is responsible for the deteat at Wilson's crock, near Springfield, and Lexington.

Pissyreed to—49 against 81.

Mr. Conkling's resolution was adopted—79 against 64.

THE DECISION OF THE WESTERN MILITARY CONTRACTS.

Mr. WIRELISTE offered a resolution, which was adopted, instructing the Committee on the Endicistry to inquire it to the expediency of providing by have by making final the decisions of the Board of Commissioners now engaged in deciding upon contracts growing out of the operations. the decisions of the Board of Commissioners now engaged in decising upon contracts growing out of the operations in the Western Military Department.

MROWLAST WIPPLETSIAL TREET CIT.

Mr. STEVENS asked and obtained leave to report a joint resolution explanatory of the Feccut act imposing duties

Judgment will not hereafter be entrusted with important commands. If dead, we should cast no obloquy on their sabes or disgrace their memory. The time has come when there should be a movement. The troops ought to be drilled and prepared with this view. Gentlemen of the army, somewhere or another, knew quite as much about military affairs as any member of this House. The House should do nothing below its dignity. This was not the proper place to investigate battles. He was opposed to the whole reachtion. It was a subject with which they had nothing todo, and the sooner they stopped the proceedings, as now proposed, the better for the country.

Mr. Enwanse, (sep.) of N. H., did not see that what Mr. Conkin had said implied any censure on the General-in-Chief. If the latter supposed it would be detrimental to the public interests to answer the resolution it was proper for him to say so. He regretted that there existed a disposition here to deprecate the position of the General-in-Chief. For himself he felt we must place in him the most implicit confidence if we would come out of this conflict with honor. General McClelan was charged with an immense responsibility, and surrounded by so much treachery that he can scarcely whisper his plans. We should strengthen his hands and cheer his heart in view of these facts.

Mr. CATTENDEN, (Union) of Ky., contended that the The resolution was passed and the House adjourned

## THE DEPARTURE OF MASON AND SLIDELL.

on Board the Starlight-Slidell in No Harry to Leave-Mason Very Nervon Eustis' Opinion of the State of Afceived on Board the Rinaldo ler Expedition, &c., &c.

OUR BOSTON CORRESPONDENCE.

Boston, Jan. 6, 1862 "he steamtug Starlight, which was chartered by the E-vernment to convey Messrs. Mason and Slidell, with their Secretaries, Messrs. Eustis and McFarlane, from Fort Warren to the British gunboat Rinaldo, left Provincetown at two o'clock this morning, and arrived here at seven o'clock, making the trip in five hours. From Captain Baker, one of her owners, I gathered the fellow

Charlestown Navy Yard, and Mr. Webster, special agent of the government for the transfer of the rebel Commissioners, called on Messrs. Folsom & Eaker and chartered the Starlight for the alleged purpose of bringing up prisoners who were to be exchanged for Union prisoners in the The next morning (Wednesday), in accordance with orders, the Starlight arrived at the Navy Yard at seven

Last Tuesday evening Commodore Hudson, of the

o'clock. Commodore Hudson and Mr. Webster, with eight marines, were waiting, and in a few minutes all of the party but the Commodore were on their way to Fort Warren, where they arrived at a quarter after eight. at once on board the Starlight. In a short time all but Mr Slidell were ready. He, to show his indifference, insist ed on taking his time and delaying the boat as much as

that he declared he would bring him off just as he was. At eleven o'clock A. M Mr. Six ell had finished his preperations, and, accompanied by Col. Dimmick, the four prisoners walked down the pier to the boat. There was not the slightest demonstration. The garrison were all on parade at the time, but with no relation to the departure of the rebel guests. On parting with Col. Dim mick the rebels merely shook hands with him, and thanked him for his attentions during their stayant his hotel All four, though probably glad to be released from confinement, appeared to be sorry that they were not to suffer martyrdom for the sake of involving our country

Mr. Mason and Mr. McFarlane were evidently in good spirits, though Mason was very nervous, trembling exessively. He was very anxious to know what the people of Boston said of his arrest and release, and must have been somewhat chagrined to be answered that they cared very little about it. Sidell and Eastis were moody and out of temper, though Eastis conversed freely, asking questions about the condition of our people and thereforts of the administration to suppress the rebellion. He de clared that unless the federal arms achieved important victories before April, that the European governments could recognise the confederacy and raise the blockade. He also stated that money was plenty in New Orleans, there being, according to his assertion, fifteen millions n specie there. He was evidently astonished to learn that the poor people of the North were still some removes Mr. Webster a great many questions concerning the operations of the federal government, but if they obtained much information from his polite but adroit answers,

they are cleverer than most men. The party dined in the little cabin of the Starlight, and to soothe their porturbed feelings, the Captain of the boat-draped the back of the cabin with the Stars and Stripes. The Captain says they seemed to prefer the atmosphere of the wheel house to that of the cabin, and left the latter place as speedily as possible. Captain Baker says Sidell looked as though he had been on a good old toot for a week. In justice to the crafty Louisianian, let me renark that he had been sick for a week. He was very sea sick on the trip to Provincetown. If the nausea had only

among the fluny tribe in Massachusetts Bay.

Nothing whatever of interest occurred on the trip. At half-past four o'clock Wednesday afternoon, the Starlight arrived at Provincetown harbor, and hailing the Rinalde, was told to come alongside. She did so, and Mr. Webster stepped aboard the gunbeat and asked the Captain if he stepped aboard the gunboat and asked the Captain if he had orders to receive the Commissioners and their Secre-taries. He replied that he had, whereupon Mr. Webster returned to the Starlight and bade his guests good-by. They immediately stepped on board the Rinaldo. There-was no reception whatever of them, other than what would be accorded to any ordinary traveller, not se much as a file of marines to present arms to them.

The Rinaldo at once got under way, and at six o'clock she had left the harbor of Provincetown. The wind blew a hurricane all night, but as it blew off the shore she probably did not suffer much from the gale. It is thought by many that the Rinaldo proceeded to Halifax to intercept the America from New York on Wednesday, but as there is no news of her arrival at that point it is quite as ikely that she has gone to Liverpool. The Rinaldo is described as being a very inferior vessel, with a bow like a mussoow. She was very dirty, and our lateguests are not likely to enjoy a very pleasant voyage in her.

guests are not likely to enjoy a very pleasant voyage in her.

The whole affair was conducted in a manner calculated to entirely destroy any idea of self importance which the Commiscioners may have indulged in. While to our people the manner of the transfer must have been exceedingly gratifying, to the priseners themselves and their assumed government, it must be viewed as ignominious and contemptious in the extreme.

The Rinalde arrived at Provincetown at six o'cleck on the morning of the day of her departure with the rebels, and created an intense excitement among the inhabitants of Cape Cod. As they knew nothing of her object or mission they indulged all sorts of conjectures, the most generally accepted being that she was to blockade that port. They were greatly relieved when they saw her depart with Davis' emissaries, and prayed most fervently that those goutdomen might sheedily present their creentials to Mr. David Jones, who is popularly supposed to represent King Neptune at the bettern of his dominion. that those gentlemen might specify present their credentials to Mr. Pavid Jones, who is popularly supposed torepresent King Neptune at the bettem of his dominion.

The tugboat Starlight, which has played a prominentpart in this page of our national history, is owned by
Messrs. Folsom & Baker. She is nearly new, having been
built only eight months ag in "hisadelphia. She is made
of iron, is of eighty tone burthen, draws only savice to
water, and is goed for fifteen miles an hour. Owing to
the gale that has been blowing for several days, she wasunable to leave Provinceiown until this morning.

Mr. Webster and the marines returned to Boston the
next day after the departure of the Rinaldo, by stage and
rail.

next day after the departure of the Rinaldo, by stage and rail.

Thus ends a passage in the record of our rebellion, in which our government has demonstrated its greatest strength—the confidence of the people—and in which, also, the assertion that we are ruled by a mob is most effectually refuted. Here, in Boston, everybody is satisfied with the settlement of the difficulty, and it is now only alinded to as a matter of the past and of no interest. The steamship Constitution is expected to leave here for Ship island this afternoon. The troops of Gen. Butter's division on board are comfortable, but very anxions to be on their way to their destination. It will be gratifying to those who have friends and relatives in the expedition to learn that the Sanitary Commission has made arrangements to extend the benefits of their humane association to the soldiers of the New England division at Ship Island. Dr. Blake, a regular physician, of Walpole, N. H., accompanies the expedition, and remains at Ship Island as the agent of the Sanitary Commission. He has alroady furnished the sick in the nespital with little delication that are ever grateful to the sick or wounded soldier.

The ship Island lies near the Constitution in the stream.

dier

The ship Idaho lies near the Constitution in the stream.
She is freighting for Ship Island, and has arrangements for transporting several hundred troops.

City Intelligence.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE .- Mr. District Attorney A. Oakly Hall has been applying the new broom to his office most thoroughly. Not only has he appointed two new associates, but a new set of clerks. Yesterday Mr. Hall made his debut in the Court of Sessions in his offi-Hall made his debut in the Court of Sessions in his official capacity, and began business in a most determined manner. In opening a case to the jury he alluded briefly to his once more appearing as public prosecutor, and remarked that he very decirally preferred the position of prosecuting criminals than that of defending them. Mr Orlando L. Stewart and Charles E. Whitehead have been appointed Assistant District Attorneys. It is needless to say that these gentlemen have been selected by Mr. Hall for their undoubted ability to perform the duties of that office.

o'clock on Monday morning a fire was discovered in the Church of Annuholation, No. 110 West Fourteenth street, Rev. S. Seabury rector. The fire originated in the front part of the church, around the register of the het air furnice. The flames were extinguished before they extended into the body of the church, but not, however, until the building was damaged to the extent of about \$3,000; fully insured. Church of Annunciation, No. 110 West Fourteenth street,

TOO THE NERVOUS OF BOTH SEXES -A RETIRED dergymen having been restored to health in a few days many years of great nervous soffering, is withing to others by sending (free) a tradice on the mean-one. Direct the Rev. M. Dagnait, 186 Fulton street,